WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method of providing a portable information agent comprising:

presenting a graphical representation associated with said portable information agent in a composition accessed by an initial application, said portable information agent having state and having one or more possible external connections;

allowing relocation of said graphical object to a location outside of said initial application; and

thereafter moving said portable information agent to said outside location, preserving state of said portable information agent.

2.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said portable information agent, once relocated, will persist and maintain state after termination of said initial application.

3.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said initial application is a web browser and said composition is a web page.

4.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said initial application is an email client and said composition is an email message.

5.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said initial application is a desktop provided by an operating system.

6.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said relocation may be repeated from a current location to any number of additional platforms.

7.   The method according to claim 5 wherein said desktop provided by an operating system is an interface of a platform, said platform selected from the group consisting of: a windows PC, a Macintosh PC, a unix-type operating system, a set-top box, a wireless logic appliance, internet appliance, a personal digital assistant, or any other device connected to a network.

8.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said new location is selected from the group consisting of: a desktop providing by an operating system; a different application: a different computer platform with a different operating system.

9.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said portable information agent includes one or more user interface components and wherein said components are preserved after a relocation.

10.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said portable information agent includes one or more connections to one or more external entities and wherein said connections are preserved after a relocation.

11.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said allowing relocation comprises allowing a user to select and drag said graphical object.

12.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said allowing relocation comprises allowing a user to discontinuous select said graphical object and place said object in a new location.

13.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said allowing relocation comprises allowing a graphical object to move to a new location without an action by a user.

14.   The method according to claim 10 wherein said one or more external entities are selected from the group consisting of: web servers, other applications, background processes, and other remote processes.

15.   A method of interacting with a portable information agent:

    providing a portable information agent object in a composition accessed by an initial
        application;

    allowing a user to select said portable information agent object and relocate said object
        outside of said initial application;

    upon detecting said relocating, determining if sufficient infrastructure logic exists to allow
        said object to operate in a new location;

    if said determining indicates that sufficient infrastructure does not exist, contacting an agent
        server to request necessary infrastructure logic;

    downloading and installing necessary infrastructure logic; and

    thereafter moving said graphic object to said new location.

16.   The method according to claim 15 wherein said initial application is a web browser and said composition is a web page.

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17.   The method according to claim 15 wherein said new location is selected from the group consisting of: a desktop providing by an operating system; a different application: a different computer platform with a different operating system.

18.   The method according to claim 15 wherein said portable information agent is associated with a graphic object constructed from presentation primitives that allow user interaction with said object.

19.   The method according to claim 15 wherein said graphic agent object includes logic allowing communication with a data server for tracking user interaction.

20.   The method according to claim 19 wherein said graphic agent object and said infrastructure allow communication with a data server for tracking user interaction after said object is moved to a new location desktop.